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December 16th.

Vice President WETHERILL in the Chair.

A letter was read from Dr. D. Leasure, dated Lewistown, Pennsylvania, December 5th, 1851, announcing the transmission of the skin of an adult American Black Bear, for the Museum.

Dr. Le Conte presented for publication in the Journal, the conclusion of his paper entitled "An attempt to classify the Longicorn Coleoptera of America North of Mexico." Referred to the Committee on the former portions of the paper.

Dr. Leidy read a paper from Mr. Charles Girard, intended for publication in the Proceedings, entitled "Notice of twelve new genera of exotic Planariæ, by Charles Girard," which was referred to Mr. Lea, Dr. Ruschenberger, and Dr. Le Conte.

Mr. Cassin read a paper, intended for publication in the Proceedings, entitled "Description of Birds of the genera Laniarius, Dicururus, Graucalus, Pipra, and Picus, specimens of which are in the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia." Referred to a Committee consisting of Dr. Fisher, Dr. Wilson, and Dr. Watson.

Dr. Leidy exhibited several fossils, from the Green Sand of New Jersey, which he characterized as follows:—

CHELONIA GRANDÆVA, Leidy.

Proposed upon three vertebral plates from the Green Sand of New Jersey, presented to the Academy by Mr. Wetherill.

One of these has its anterior extremity broken off, but the length of the fragment is greater than the breadth; its form has been quadrilateral, and it was probably the first vertebral plate. Length 2 in. 8 lines; breadth 23 lines.

A second plate is broad hexahedral, the two lateral sides equal and shorter than the anterior, which is concave, and the posterior which has the stump of a pointed process.

Length 26 lines; breadth 32 lines; thickness $5\frac{1}{2}$ lines.

The third plate is hexahedral, sinuated in front, with a pointed process behind.

Length with process 28 lines; breadth 28 lines.

TRIONYX PRISCUS, Leidy.

Indicated by a fragment of the proximal extremity of a costal plate, from the Green Sand of New Jersey.

Thickness of plate $3\frac{1}{2}$ lines, with the rib proper five lines.

The attention of the members was also directed to a fossil cranium from the Eocene of Nebraska, from the collection of Dr. D. D. Owen, which was characterized as follows:—

MACHAIRODUS PRIMÆVUS, Leidy and Owen.

Established upon a mutilated cranium, one-fourth less in size than the paucither, *Felis concolor*.

The greater portion of the canines is broken away, but sufficient remains of that of the right side to indicate that it was long, compressed in form, and denticulate upon its concave edge.

Mr. Lea exhibited a specimen of Zircon imbedded in blue Quartz, from the vicinity of the Yellow Springs, Chester county, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Vaux requested the attention of the members to the beautiful suit of specimens of Minerals from Nova Scotia, presented this evening by Isaac Chipman, Esq., many of which were not in the collection of the Society.

December 23d.

Vice-President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Dr. Leidy read a paper, intended for publication in the Proceedings, entitled "Contributions to Helminthology." Referred to Drs. Hallowell, Wilson, and Zantzinger.

Dr. Le Conte read a paper, intended for publication in the Proceedings, entitled "Synopsis of the Lampyrides of temperate North America." Referred to Dr. Leidy, Dr. McEuen, and Mr. Lea.

Dr. Leidy made some remarks upon the two species of Rhinoceros from Nebraska, which he had named *R. Nebrascensis* and *R. occidentalis*, and said he had satisfied himself they both belonged to the subgenus *Acerotherium*, *Kaup.*, a good character of distinction of which, in the teeth, is the presence of a well developed basal ridge.

Mr. Lea exhibited a complete suite of specimens of *Unio multiplicatus*, from the Western Rivers of the United States, and made some extended remarks on the Family Naiidæ.

December 30th.

Vice-President WETHERILL in the Chair.

The Committee to which was referred the following paper by Dr. Le Conte, reported in favor of publication in the Proceedings.

Synopsis of the Lampyrides of Temperate North America.

BY JOHN L. LE CONTE, M. D.

LAMPYRIDES.

Mandibulæ integræ : labrum obtectum : abdomen 6-vel 7-articulatum articulis omnibus liberis : tarsi 5-articulati articulo quarto calceato, plus minusve bilobato ; femora ad trochanteris basin et latus inserta.

Div. 1^{ma}. *Photophori.*

Abdomen sæpissime 7-articulatum,* articulis ultimis sæpius phosphoreis ; antennæ approximatae ; tarsi articulo 4^{to} subtus calceato.

* Colophotia has only six segments in the abdomen.